



# MOBILE LIBRARY SERVICE GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS

*The following is from Swindon Borough Council:*

"We are currently looking at ways of sustaining and, where possible, improving the service we provide to users of the mobile Library service.

The vehicle will need replacing by 2015 and there is a significant capital cost involved in replacing the vehicle.

You will be aware of the extremely challenging budget position Swindon Borough Council faces both now and particularly over the coming years, and we would therefore wish to explore with you alternative options that enable access to library services for our customers in the future, whether that is through a mobile vehicle or in some other way.

Some of the stops are currently of a short duration and are not always at times that are convenient to everyone who lives in that area. Working with partners, including Parish Councils, Community Centres and community groups, there may be different and better solutions that can be found to offer local communities access to library resources.

We are therefore keen to hear your ideas that would enable people to continue to have access to our service through greater community involvement.

We will be in touch with you about this. In the meantime, you may wish to contact us directly. If so, can you please contact Ellen Carter (Library Community Development Officer) at [ecarter@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:ecarter@swindon.gov.uk) or on 07884 264541, Shaun Smith (Job share - Strategic Manager - Library Delivery) at [ssmith@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:ssmith@swindon.gov.uk) or on 01793 466504, or Leon Bolton (Job share - Strategic Manager - Library Delivery) at [lbolton@swindon.gov.uk](mailto:lbolton@swindon.gov.uk) or on 01793 465552, so we can arrange to talk to you about ideas that you feel may deliver an alternative and maybe improved service at no extra cost.

We would like to complete this work by the end of July, if at all possible, so we can develop any agreed proposals over the coming months.

We will also be consulting with current mobile library users to understand how they may access library resources more conveniently"

If you wish to make your views known, please respond either directly as indicated above or speak to a member of the Parish Council.

**SBC** are asking all residents to be reasonable with the amount of green waste they leave out for collection, following a huge increase in demand last year. When households leave too many bags out, the vans fill up faster and it means others miss out on their collections. This was a particular problem last year due to the very wet weather.

Following a full review, the Council has introduced a limit to the service and households from now on should not exceed four bags per fortnightly collection. This change, voted through by Councillors, has been publicised on their website and in local media.

They want to offer a green waste collection service that is as fair as possible for everyone. Due to budget pressures, it is not possible to increase the service so they are appealing for people to be reasonable with the amount they leave out for collection.

You can get rid of your green waste immediately by taking it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre, in Cheney Manor Industrial Estate, which is open every day (except the Christmas and New Year bank holidays). There is no limit to the amount of green waste and other recyclables you can take there. You can even use the webcam on our website:

[www.swindon.gov.uk/recyclingwebcam](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/recyclingwebcam)

to see how busy the centre is before you go.

Households generating more than four bags of green waste will need to use this facility.

Alternatively, composting is a good way to manage green waste in your own garden.

To find out more, please see

[www.swindon.gov.uk/greenwaste](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/greenwaste)

Source: SBC

# SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY CHANGES

## **Introduction** *(From SBC website)*

SBC have opened a consultation on their Education Transport Policy. This closes on Sunday 14 July 2013. The Local Authority (LA) has a responsibility to provide school age children with assistance with transport if they live over a certain distance away from their designated appropriate school. This is currently defined as "the school for the purposes of assessing eligibility is the designated area school as defined for admission purposes". Historically this has been the school's catchment area.

The current transport policy does not support the changes in legislation that allow Academy Schools to define their own catchment area and does not sustain the anticipated changes in terms of the growth of Swindon.

In order to protect the Council from potential additional costs of this above, the Council proposes to consult on changing the 'Designated Appropriate Area School' to the 'Nearest School'. This would mean that children would be eligible to assistance with transport if they lived over the 2 or 3 mile limit (subject to age) from their nearest school.

The LA proposes that should this be successful, this would be implemented in September 2014. Students currently eligible for assistance with transport and travelling under existing arrangements would continue to do so until they left their current provision.

Please note that the proposed changes in this report do not affect children with Statements of Special Educational Needs as they are subject to separate criteria.

## **Background for Bishopstone**

For over 40 years, our designated secondary school has been the Ridgeway School in Wroughton. This was reaffirmed during a review of catchment areas in 2009 and there are currently no plans to change this. Under government legislation, a local authority is required to provide transport for children to their "designated appropriate area school". Up until now this has been the "catchment school", i.e. Ridgeway. Swindon Borough Council (SBC) are proposing to change this wording to "nearest school", which in our case would mean transport would be provided to Dorcan Academy instead. Within this proposal a 5 year transition is planned, during which free transport will be provided to both existing Ridgeway pupils and also for new starters at Dorcan.

## **Parish Council Provisional Views**

We have been discussing this issue with Bishopstone School and we are hopeful that there will be a public meeting in Wanborough in late June with SBC officials. For those interested, keep in touch with the School. Subject to those further discussions, the Parish Council believes this proposal should NOT be approved for the following reasons

1. Children from Bishopstone Parish starting at Ridgeway in 2014 will no longer receive free school transport to Ridgeway,
2. Families in our parish will incur costs of around £400 per child per year, unless they assert their parental choice to select Dorcan Academy.
3. No financial modelling has been published but it appears that SBC will incur a substantial increase in costs, as 2 buses will need to be provided.
4. A school transport policy on its own is not an appropriate way to define catchment areas for schools. We believe that there will be many other factors which should be taken into account.
5. We support the views of our local primary schools in Bishopstone and Wanborough.

SBC are currently consulting on this proposal and are requesting comments. If you would like to make your views known please visit SBC's web page at <http://www.swindon.gov.uk/cd/cd-consultations/cd-consultations-current/Pages/Education-Transport-Policy-2014-15-Consultation-Survey.aspx> or search "Education Transport Policy Swindon". The survey closes 14th July.

INFORMATION	INTEGRITY	PERSPECTIVE	ISSUES	INFORMATION
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# Parish Council Vacancy

As a result of Karolyn Tapper standing down from the Parish Council, as announced last month, there is a vacancy; please note the arrangements for filling this vacancy which are enclosed with this month's Parish Times.

## Defibrillators

It has been suggested that the Parish Council might purchase defibrillators, to be stored in our village halls. The grounds for this are that we are quite some way from the nearest medical facilities and swift action can save lives in the event of somebody having a sudden heart problem.

Defibrillators can only be used by those who have been trained. It could be a useful skill to have; if anybody is interested in this please contact a member of the Parish Council.

## Lengthman

Parishioners will be sad to hear that Brian Martin, who has been carrying out the duties of Lengthman for the Parish for some years, has decided to stand down in July. We would like to thank him for his work in keeping the Parish tidy.

The Parish Council is therefore seeking tenders from anybody interested in this appointment. The work is varied, healthy and outdoors; it can be done at any time and there is the satisfaction of making sure that the Parish, and particularly its many footpaths, are well cared for, and being paid for it.

If you are interested please contact any member of the Parish Council to obtain a copy of the specifications.

## Self-Drive Hire Minibus

Accessible minibus available for community self-drive hire - carries up to 16 passengers. £35 per half day (up to 4 hrs) / £60 per day (exc. fuel + VAT). Ordinary car licences accepted (drivers must be 21-70 and have held a clean licence for one year +). Call (01380) 732816/7 or e-mail [transport@communityfirst.org.uk](mailto:transport@communityfirst.org.uk) for more info.

Source: Community First

# NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

## PARISH OF BISHOPSTONE

**PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a casual vacancy has occurred in the office of Councillor for the Parish Council following the resignation of Councillor Karolyn Tapper on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

Rule 5(2) of The Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) (England and Wales) Rules, 2006 now applies.

The rule allows for ten local government electors for the Bishopstone Parish to request the Returning Officer to hold an election to fill the vacancy. That request must be made within **fourteen days** excluding dies non. The fourteen day notice period ends on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2013.

If a request for an election to fill the said vacancy is made in writing to the Returning Officer, by TEN electors for the said Parish, an election will be held to fill the said vacancy.

If a request to hold an election is not received during the permitted time period Rule 5(5) of the above rules will apply. The Parish Council must, as soon as practicable after the expiry of the fourteen-day period, co-opt a person to fill the vacancy.

This notice is dated 1<sup>st</sup> day of JULY 2013.

LESLEY DREWETT  
Clerk to the Council  
BISHOPSTONE



# SMALL PRINT

## Welcome

The Parish Council always extends a warm welcome to all new and prospective residents of the Parish. We are very pleased that you've chosen to live in our community.

The Parish contains two conservation areas and everything south of the Icknield Way is also in the North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Many houses are also listed.

Naturally this brings with it all sorts of problems when it comes to tree felling, house alterations, etc. There are also other regulations aimed at preserving the character

and beauty of the parish. If in doubt, please check, we are only a phone call away.

The Parish Council is therefore always available to answer any questions you may have on any particular aspect of living in a conservation area, the area of outstanding natural beauty or in listed buildings. Please do not hesitate to contact either the Clerk, the Chair or any member of the council - the numbers appear on the next page.

We do hope you will be very happy here.

## Parish Documents

The Parish has an archive room in the village hall in Bishopstone. This is not accessible to members of the public, however, with advanced warning any document stored there may be viewed by contacting a member of the council.

Documents of particular importance are also stored on

the parish website and may be viewed by anyone with a PC. Members of the parish without a PC can ask the clerk to provide them with a hard copy.

Documents on the website include the precept, the accounts, standing orders, annual Returns, etc.

## Parish Parking

The Parish has many narrow lanes and these need to be accessible to residents, utility and emergency vehicles at all times. Cars are now being parked along some of the narrowest sections of road (e.g. Cues Lane in Bishopstone, High Street, Bishopstone, etc.) often blocking these routes to even small vehicles. Please remember that emergency vehicles need to be able to move freely down all the roads and lanes of the parish at all times. Could we therefore ask that owners of vehicles park them responsibly and avoid the narrowest sections.

THE Village Hall car park in Bishopstone is a private space available only for those using the village hall. It is not somewhere for parishioners to park on a long term basis; whatever the circumstances might be. This is

clearly signed on the wall of the hall.

Cars parked here make it very difficult for legitimate car park users to find space for their vehicles. It is also incredibly inconvenient for those users having to load and unload items, or for the infirm or disabled who wish to make use of the hall.

Provided the hall is not in use, loading and unloading of vehicles is permitted, as is visitor parking for short periods. By prior arrangement with the committee the siting of skips can also be accommodated.

The committee very much regret that it cannot offer parking for those in need, however, hall users must come first and from the complaints received these are frequently finding it difficult to park.

## Protected Trees

Trees are vital to the quality of our lives for a number of reasons:-

- They help make our two villages more pleasant and attractive places in which to live and work.
- They are often a familiar and cherished feature and so provide a sense of place.
- They provide a valuable habitat for wildlife.

They are often older than many of the buildings amongst which they stand and so contribute to our local history. Because they are so important to our environment all trees within a Conservation Area are protected by law\*. The **whole** of Bishopstone is within a Conservation Area. The **whole** of Hinton Parva centred around the church is also within a Conservation Area.

Anyone planning to cut down or carry out work to a tree here must give the Borough Council six weeks written notice of their intention to do so.

\*Whilst there are one or two exemptions, such as trees with a diameter of less than 3 inches (measured 1.5m from the ground) or when a tree is in a dangerous condition, you are strongly advised to check first with the Council's Tree Officer since any unauthorised works can be a criminal offence which could lead to prosecution and heavy fines of up to £20,000. Better to be safe than sorry!

The Council's Tree Officer can be contacted on 01793 466318.

*Individual trees or groups of trees that make a particularly important contribution to either of our villages may be worthy of special protection by way of a Tree Preservation Order. If you know of any such trees then please do not hesitate to contact any Member of the Parish Council or the Borough Council's Tree Officer who will be happy to make an inspection.*

## Outside Lights

One of the things that makes the Parish so unique and wonderful is the lack of street lighting to blight the villages. Sadly more and more people are now erecting high wattage outside lights and leaving them on permanently. Please consider your neighbours who may not wish their rooms lit throughout the night especially bedrooms where sleep can be seriously disturbed.

Emma Marrington, CPRE's Rural Policy Campaigner said:

*'Many lives are affected by light pollution. It can disturb sleep, disfigure the countryside and make the stars at night invisible to huge numbers of people.'*

Discrete and considerate outside lighting that only comes on when needed is the best type to mount if lighting is considered necessary.

Everyone is becoming more aware how energy wastage is resulting in the earth's resources being diminished. Every light that is on when no one needs to use the light it casts is adding to this wastage.

So please look at your lighting needs and think of your neighbours as well as the planet and only light when needed.

# USEFUL INFORMATION

**Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111  
(Call anonymously with information about crime)

**Domestic Violence** 24hr National Helpline:  
0808 2000 247

**FRANK:** 0800 77 66 00  
(drug related)

**Anti Social Behaviour:** 01793 445500

**Noise Nuisance:** 01793 445500

**NHS Direct:** 0845 4647

**Swindon Community Safety Partnership:** 01793 466506

**Wiltshire Bobby Van Trust** 01225 794652 provides home security services to people aged 60+ or with special needs. (NB: the WBVT is a charity - donations are welcome).

### Beat the Burglar

If you see anyone acting suspiciously, take their description and vehicle registration details and call the police on: 0845 408 7000. In an emergency call 999.

For a free home security pack and information about offers on home security call the Home Office:

**0800 456 1213**

(Packs are subject to availability).

### Police search website.

<http://www.police.uk/>

## Meetings for the year

**2013/14**

1st July 2013

5th August 2013

2nd September 2013

7th October 2013

4th November 2013

2nd December 2013

6th January 2014

3rd February 2014

3 March 2014

7th April 2014

12th May 2014 Owing to Bank Holiday

All meetings begin at 7.30pm and members of the public are always welcome. Late changes are shown on the website <http://parish.bishopstone.net> and on the notice boards in Hinton Parva and Bishopstone.

**BISHOPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL**

Lesley Drewett (Clerk)  
2 Downs Close  
Eastbury  
Hungerford  
RG17 7JW

Phone: 01488 71828  
Fax: None

Email: [lesley@tynash.com](mailto:lesley@tynash.com)  
website:<http://bishopstoneandhintonparva.org>

**Mr Julian Cooke**

Church Farm, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790278.

**Mr Nigel Crisp**

Willow House, Church Row, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790035.

**Mr Andrew Greenhalgh**

Old Farm House, West End Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PX. 791469.

**Mr Simon Jenkins (Chair)**

The Old Vicarage, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 790545.

**Dr Stuart McGuigan**

Greenoak, Newtown Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8QA. 790219.

**Mr Doug Stevens**

Church View, Church Lane, Bishopstone. SN6 8PY. 791107.

**Mr Ian Thomas**

Littlecot, High Street, Bishopstone, Wilts. SN6 8PH. 790106.

**Mr Ian Thompson (Vice Chair)**

Snowberry House, Hinton Parva. SN4 0DW. 790970.

**VACANCY**

**Useful Information**

**101 new non Emergency Police Number**

**Police Headquarters**  
0845 408 7000  
24hrs, 7 days a week

**SBC Reception Premier House**

01793 465055/465056

**Civic Offices**

01793 463668

**Wat Tyler House**

01793 463725

**Borough Councillor**

**Andrew Bennett** 01793 790563

**Fly Tipping and other similar problems**

**Swindon Commercial Services**  
01793 463463

**Keeping Swindon Safe**

SBC 01793 445500  
Police 0845 408 7000

**Refurbiz - the Domestic Appliance Re-cycling Charity.**

Refurbished appliances at affordable prices with warranty

Replacing your washing machine, dryer, fridge or electric cooker? Please donate your old machines to us so we can refurbish them for families in need. Wiltshire-wide collection and delivery service. Call us on (01380) 720200. Or visit our showroom at Hopton Park, Devizes [www.refurbiz.org](http://www.refurbiz.org). Registered Charity Number 1107150.

**Committee**

Finance

Footpaths and Highways

Pond & Island Management Committee

Hinton Village Hall

Bishopstone Village Hall

Police

Hinton Parva Charities

Bishopstone United Charities

Tree Warden

Russley Park Liaison

Responsible Financial Officer

**Representative Hinton Parva**

Nigel Crisp (Chair)  
Julian Cooke

Julian Cooke

Ian Thompson

Peter Cooke

Julian Cooke

**Representative Bishopstone**

Simon Jenkins  
Vacancy

Stuart McGuigan  
Ian Thomas

Doug Stevens  
Andy Greenhalgh

Andy Greenhalgh

Simon Jenkins

Karolyn Tapper (EX Cllr)  
Lesley Drewett  
Laurie Manketelov (Ex Cllr)

Ian Thomas

Andy Greenhalgh

Lesley Drewett

**Planning Update**

All planning applications, their history and all supporting documents can now be viewed online by visiting: [www.swindon.gov.uk/planning](http://www.swindon.gov.uk/planning).

Planning issues are discussed at the monthly Parish Council meetings. All plans for that month are laid out on display prior to the meetings and councilors and members of the public are invited to take a look. Public representations are heard prior to the start of the meeting.

Parish Council meetings alternate between Hinton Parva Village Hall and Bishopstone Village Hall.

Members of the public are always welcome.

**Foxhill Motocross 2013 Calendar**

23rd June - One Day Quad Bike Event  
20th/21st July - Two Day Youth Event  
10th/11th August - Two Day Youth Event  
24th/25th August - Two Day Youth Event  
19th/20th October ACU British Youth Team

**PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

NONE

**GRANTED**

**S/13/0409/HC** - Erection of extension to garage & single storey side/rear extensions & Associated works - Hanger Park House, Hinton Parva Lane, Hinton Parva

**REFUSED**

None.

Don't forget that all important information is displayed on the notice-boards in both villages and on the website.